

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OECD P 04885 01 OF 02 181755Z

53

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SP-02

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OMB-01 CEA-01 L-03 H-02 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-11

NSAE-00 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 FEA-00 /119 W

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FM USMISSION OECD PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASH DC IMMEDIATE 0679

INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS 0037

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 OECD PARIS 04885

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PAGE 02 OECD P 04885 01 OF 02 181755Z

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, CIEC, ENRG, EFIN, ETRD, EAID, OECD
SUBJECT: CIEC: MEETING OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY CO-CHAIRMEN
IN G-8.

1. IN HIS ROLE AS REPRESENTATIVE OF CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRMEN. CANADIAN OECD PERM REP MACLEAN CALLED MEETING OF DEVELOPED COUNTRY COMMISSION CO-CHAIRMEN IN G-8 CONTEXT ON FEBRUARY 17. STATED PURPOSE WAS TO REVIEW GENERAL SITUATION.

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF STATE OF PLAY BY COMMISSION CO-CHAIRMEN LED TO CONCLUSION THAT CONFERENCE WAS OFF TO A REASONABLY SMOOTH START ALTHOUGH IT WAS STILL TOO EARLY TO DRAW CONCLUSIONS ABOUT THE PROBABLE OUTCOME OF THE WHOLE PROCESS.

3. REAL PURPOSE OF MEETING' HOWEVER, APPERENTLY WAS TO GIVE WELLENSTEIN (CO-CHAIRMAN OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FROM EC COMMISSION) AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE 3 PROCEDURAL QUESTIONS:

(A) WELLENSTEIN HAD ASKED DC MEMBERS OF HIS COMMISSION WHETHER THEY WOULD AGREE TO EXTEND PRESENT SESSION THROUGH SATURDAY MORNING FEBRUARY 21 IF SCHEDULE REQUIRED BIT MORE TIME. ALL BUT US HAD AGREED ONLY IF

STRONG PRESSURES TO DO SO EMERGED. AT CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING BOSWORTH REPEATED CONCERNS EXPRESSED IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION G-8 BY WINDER, TO WIT: PRECEDENT FOR EXPANDING DISCUSSIONS COULD PROVE DANGEROUS IN OTHER COMMISSIONS AS WELL AS IN OTHER SESSIONS OF DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION ITSELF. WE SHOULD HOLD FIRMLY TO RECOMMENDATIONS OF JANUARY 19 CO-CHAIRMEN'S MEETING. WHILE THIS RECOMMENDATION HAD ENVISAGED POSSIBILITY OF LENGTHENED SESSION BY CONSENSUS, DC CO-CHAIRMEN HAD STATED ORALLY THAT THEY SAW NO CIRCUMSTANCES IN WHICH PROLONGATION WOULD BE AGREED TO. US POSITION RECEIVED SOME SUPPORT FROM JAPANESE (MIYAZAKI) WHO ALSO FEARED PRECEDENT. WELLENSTEIN, SUPPORTED BY MACLEAN, ARGUED THAT PRECEDENT WAS NOT A PROBLEM SINCE JANUARY 19 CO-CHAIRMEN RECOMMENDATIONS EXPLICITLY ENVISAGED POSSIBLE PROLONGATION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OECD P 04885 01 OF 02 181755Z

OF FIRST SESSION. FURTHERMORE, AGREEING TO PROLONGATION IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION WOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO SEEK CONSENSUS FOR EARLY END TO SESSION IN OTHER COMMISSIONS SHOULD THIS COURSE SEEM DESIRABLE. WELLENSTEIN SAID HE HAD NOT YET DISCUSSED ISSUE WITH HIS OPPOSITE NUMBER,

AIT-CHALLAL, AND HAD NOT YET COME UNDER PRESSURE TO PROLONG SESSION. BOSWORTH NOTED THAT ALL SPEAKERS,

INCLUDING WELLENSTEIN, HAD EXPRESSED PREFERENCE FOR CONCLUDING MEETING ON FEBRUARY 20 AND SUGGESTED THAT MATTER BE LEFT THERE. SHOULD WELLENSTEIN IN FACT COME UNDER PRESSURE FOR PROLONGATION, WE COULD TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT ISSUE.

(B) WELLENSTEIN ASKED IF AGREEMENT SHOULD NOT BE REACHED ON DATES FOR COMMISSIONS TO MEET DURING MARCH SESSION, NOTING THAT 7 WORKING DAYS WERE ENVISAGED FOR EACH COMMISSION WITHIN 10 DAY "WINDOW". MACLEAN SUGGESTED THAT ENERGY COMMISSION MEET ON FIRST DAY, MARCH 17 (I.E., WEDNESDAY TO WEDNESDAY), RAW MATERIALS COMMISSION FROM THURSDAY TO THURSDAY, DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION FROM FRIDAY TO FRIDAY, AND FINANCE COMMISSION FROM SATURDAY TO SATURDAY. DONDELINGER, CO-CHAIRMAN FINANCE COMMISSION (FROM LUXEMBOURG AS EC PRESIDENCY) ASKED THAT FINANCE COMMISSION BE CONSIDERED AS SPECIAL FOR THESE PURPOSES. NO ONE ASKED HIM WHAT HE MEANT BY THAT. NO OTHER

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PAGE 01 OECD P 04885 02 OF 02 181754Z

53

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PAGE 02 OECD P 04885 02 OF 02 181754Z

OBJECTION TO MACLEAN'S SUGGESTION WAS VOICED, THOUGH IT WAS AGREED THAT MATTER WOULD NATURALLY HAVE TO BE DISCUSSED WITH G-19.

(C) WELLENSTEIN WANTED UNDERSTANDING ON HOW INDIVIDUAL COMMISSIONS WOULD CONCLUDE DISCUSSIONS OF PARTICULAR SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS. IN GENERAL HE THOUGHT IT NECESSARY TO HAVE SOMETHING IN WRITING TO RECORD STATE OF PLAY. HE HAD RAISED QUESTION IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION G-8 WHERE CANADIAN REP HAD SUGGESTED THAT CO-CHAIRMEN PROVIDE SUMMARY. WELLENSTEIN THOUGHT THIS WAS A GOOD SUGGESTION AND SAID ONLY OPPOSITION IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION G-8 HAD BEEN US. BOSWORTH POINTED OUT THAT ANY WRITTEN STATEMENT OF SUMMARY OR CONCLUSIONS COULD BE QUOTED NOT ONLY IN FUTURE CIEC MEETINGS BUT ALSO IN OTHER FORA, SUCH AS UNCTAD, TO MAXIMUM DC DISADVANTAGE. HE THOUGHT NO WRITTEN STATEMENT WAS NECESSARY. MACLEAN SUPPORTED WELLENSTEIN'S VIEWPOINT. MIYAZAKI SUPPORTED BOSWORTH. ONLY CONCLUSION THAT EMERGED FROM DISCUSSION WAS THAT ISSUE WOULD HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT IN INDIVIDUAL COMMISSIONS. (NOTE: SUBSEQUENTLY, IN DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

G-8, STRONG OPPOSITION WAS VOICED TO CONCEPT OF WRITTEN CONCLUSIONS. WELLENSTEIN, IN EFFECT, HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TAKE NO INITIATIVE ON THIS POINT. END NOTE).

4. MACLEAN RAISED THE QUESTION OF HOW THE PRESS SHOULD BE HANDLED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE FIRST SESSION. THE ONLY AGREEMENT THAT EMERGED WAS THAT THE ISSUE WOULD BE ADDRESSED COMMISSION BY COMMISSION. MACLEAN COMMENTED THAT THE ROLE OF VENEZUELAN CO-CHAIRMAN PEREZ GUERRERO NEEDED TO BE CONSIDERED. MACLEAN HOPED THAT P-G WOULD NOT INTERVENE IN ANY POSSIBLE MEETINGS OF INDIVIDUAL COMMISSION CO-CHAIRMEN WITH THE PRESS. BUT WERE P-G TO DO SO WE WOULD NEED TO THINK ABOUT A POSSIBLE COUNTER-WEIGHT.

5. AUSTRALIAN OECD PERM REP CAMERON COMPLAINED THAT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 OECD P 04885 02 OF 02 181754Z

NUMBER OF MEETINGS HAD BEEN HELD AMONG 5 MEMBERS OF INDIVIDUAL COMMISSIONS TO EXCLUSION OF 3 COMMISSION NON-MEMBERS. CAMERON FELT IT IMPORTANT THAT FULL COORDINA-

TION TAKE PLACE AMONG 8. SWISS, SWEDISH, AND SPANISH REPS SUPPORTED VIEW THAT ALL 8 DC CONFERENCE MEMBERS SHOULD BE INCLUDED AS OFTEN AS POSSIBLE. AFTER INDIVIDUAL CO-CHAIRMEN HAD COMMENTED, MACLEAN SAID HE THOUGHT IN ALL COMMISSIONS SOME MEETINGS OF G-5 AND SOME MEETINGS OF G-8 HAD TAKEN PLACE, BUT THRUST OF PRACTICE MAY HAVE VARIED. HE THOUGHT IT IMPORTANT THAT A TREND NOT SET IN IN FAVOR OF G-5 AND AWAY FROM G-8 MEETINGS. HOWEVER, THE CO-CHAIRMEN'S COMMENTS HAD INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN TO QUESTIONS AND PROBLEMS FROM ALL 8 AND TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THEIR VIEWS. THERE, THE MATTER WAS LEFT.

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